Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-9) was elected today by her colleagues from the region to the Steering and Policy Committee of the U.S. House Democratic caucus.

"I appreciate the vote of confidence from our members from Ohio, Pennsylvania and Kentucky to articulate a jobs and economic growth agenda in the highest reaches of the caucus," Kaptur said.

Kaptur was elected by a unanimous vote based on seniority. She had won re-election to a 15th term earlier this month by a margin of 18 percentage points over her Republican opponent.

"The loud message from our heartland region is the imperative for Congress to keep its focus like a laser beam on jobs and growing our economy," Kaptur said.

"The recovery must reach deeper to lift workers and families that have been impacted by the current recession. We must reverse the trend toward outsourcing of good jobs. The winning strategy is to 'Invent in America' and 'Make and Grow It in America Again.'

"The recession that began in 2007 has hollowed out the jobs base of our regional economy. We need innovative policies to repair our infrastructure, develop clean sources of energy, and capitalize on our strengths in manufacturing, transportation, value-added agriculture, and natural resources.

"I look forward to representing our members from the nation's heartland on the Steering and Policy Committee."

Kaptur represents Ohio's Ninth Congressional District, which includes all of Ottawa and Erie counties and parts of Lucas and Lorain counties.